
Examiner's Amendment and Comments

1. The response filed 09 June 2008 to Final Office Action mailed 28 January 2008 is acknowledged and entered.

Claims Status

2. Claims 2 and 5-20 have currently been cancelled.
3. Claims 1, 21 and 24-27 have currently been amended.
4. Claims 1, 3-4 and 21-27 are currently pending and examined on merits.

Examiner's Amendment

5. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicants, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for the following Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview on 10 July 2008 with Ms. Carol Francis of Applicants' Representative's Office.

In the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A composition comprising an isolated apolipoprotein E (i.e., apoE) stable folding intermediate, wherein the apoE stable folding intermediate is at least about 80% pure, wherein the apoE is apoE3 or apoE4, and wherein the stable folding intermediate is formed at a pH of from about 1.0 to about 5.0.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the apoE stable folding intermediate comprises an N-terminal fragment of apoE4.

4.(Original) The composition of claim 3, wherein the N-terminal fragment of apoE4 is about 22 kDa in size.

5.-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the apoE stable folding intermediate is at least about 90% pure.

22. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the apoE stable folding intermediate comprises an N-terminal fragment of apoE3.

23. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 22, wherein the N-terminal fragment of apoE3 is about 22 kDa in size.

24. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the apoE stable folding intermediate is formed at a pH of from about 2.0 to about 4.0.

25. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the apoE stable folding intermediate is formed at a urea concentration of from about 2 M to about 7 M.

26. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the apoE is apoE4, and wherein the apoE stable folding intermediate is formed at a urea concentration of from about 3.5 M to about 4.5 M.

27. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the apoE is apoE3, and wherein the apoE stable folding intermediate is formed at a urea concentration of from about 4.5 M to about 5 M.

Examiner's Reasons for Allowance

6. In view of applicants' amendments and comments filed 09 June 2008, a further reconsideration and review of the specification shows support for the word, "about" in the specification. Therefore,

"about" is re-inserted in Claims 1, 21 and 24-27 at the places for which said claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicants must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

8. Claims 1, 3-4 and 21-27 are allowed.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Kailash C. Srivastava whose telephone number is (571) 272-0923. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. (Eastern Standard or Daylight Savings Time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Jon Weber can be reached at (571)-272-0925 Monday through Thursday 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (i.e., PAIR) system. Status information for the published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (i.e., EBC) at: (866)-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dr. Kailash C Srivastava/
Examiner, Art Unit 1657

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11 July 2008

/JON P WEBER/
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